

REMARKS

In this Amendment, claims 123-125, 128-135, 137, 140, 141, 143, and 145-148 have been amended, claims 136, 139, 142, 144, 149, and 150 have been canceled, and claims 151-165 have been added. No new matter has been added by this Amendment. After entry of this Amendment, claims 123-135, 137, 138, 140, 141, 143, 145-148, and 151-165 will be pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected:

(a) claims 123, 124, 126-128, 131, 134-136, and 149 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,015,247 to Michelson ("Michelson");

(b) claims 123, 124, 126-128, 134, and 148-150 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,530,926 to Davison ("Davison");

(c) claims 125, 129-132, 135, and 136 as being unpatentable over Davison in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,183,472 to Lutz ("Lutz");

(d) claims 139-142, 144, and 145 as being unpatentable over Davison and Lutz in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,530,929 to Justis et al. ("Justis");

(e) claims 137 and 138 as being unpatentable over Davison and Lutz in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,360,750 to Gerber ("Gerber");

(f) claim 133 as being unpatentable over Davison in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,200,322 to Branch et al. ("Branch");

(g) claim 143 as being unpatentable over Davison, Lutz, Justis, and Branch; and

(h) claims 146-147 as being unpatentable over Davison in view of Lutz.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner and his Supervisory Patent Examiner, Eduardo C. Robert, for the courtesy of the personal interview on March 6, 2007, with the Applicants' undersigned representative.

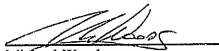
Applicants amend claims 123-125, 128-135, 137, 140, 141, 143, and 145-148 and add new claims 151-165 to better define the claimed invention. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully submit that currently pending claims 123-135, 137, 138, 140, 141, 143, 145-148, and 151-165 overcome the Examiner's rejections.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated below with any questions or comments, or to otherwise facilitate expeditious prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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